

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed May 16, 2008, and made final, has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-13, and 39-46 are now pending in this application. Claims 1, 3-6, and 8-13 stand rejected. Claims 2, 7, and 14-38 have been canceled. Claims 39-46 have been withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1, 3-6, and 8-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(c) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0178035 to Lajouanie et al. (hereinafter referred to as “Lajouanie”) is respectfully traversed.

Lajouanie describes pre-developed dashboards that display performance data associated with a business activity, or calculations made, in one or more sub-processes of a selected predefined business performance model (110, 115, 120). Each predefined business performance model (110, 115, 120) is associated with predetermined metrics and is developed based on at least one or more performance criteria, for example, business commitments, of an individual or company, such as punctuality, fluidity, accessibility and response-time. Figures 7-9 of Lajouanie illustrate some exemplary metrics assigned to predefined business performance model (110), predefined business performance model (115) and predefined business performance model (120). The metrics shown in Figures 7-9 measure how a business activity, for example, a business process or sub-process, is performing or behaving through time, predict how a business activity is likely to perform, and/or measure how well resources of the business activity are utilized. Notably, Lajouanie does not describe nor suggest a method for processing business metrics information including storing pre-defined users based on a business metric at the database, wherein the business metric is one of a customer-centric metric, a core business metric, and a business function metric, the customer-centric metric including one of customer savings, on-time deliveries, and quality; the core business metric including one of total revenue, variable costs, base costs, cash flow, and net income; and the business metric is relevant to at least one of sales, marketing, manufacturing, engineering, finance, environmental health and safety, and legal.

Claim 1 recites a method for processing business metrics information, where the method comprises “storing pre-defined users based on a business metric, wherein the business metric is one of a customer-centric metric, a core business metric, and a business function metric, the customer-centric metric including one of customer savings, on-time deliveries, and quality; the core business metric including one of total revenue, variable costs, base costs, cash flow, and net income; and the business metric is relevant to at least one of sales, marketing, manufacturing, engineering, finance, environmental health and safety, and legal . . . receiving operating and financial data for a business . . . processing the operating and financial data to generate business metrics. . . comparing the business metrics to pre-defined parameters. . . notifying the pre-defined users when a pre-determined threshold regarding a respective business metric is satisfied.”

Applicants respectfully submit that Lajouanie does not describe nor suggest a method for processing business metrics information, as is recited in amended Claim 1. More specifically, Lajouanie does not describe nor suggest storing pre-defined users based on a business metric at the database, wherein the business metric is one of a customer-centric metric, a core business metric, and a business function metric, the customer-centric metric including one of customer savings, on-time deliveries, and quality; the core business metric including one of total revenue, variable costs, base costs, cash flow, and net income; and the business metric is relevant to at least one of sales, marketing, manufacturing, engineering, finance, environmental health and safety, and legal, and after comparing the processed business methods, notifying the pre-defined users when a pre-determined threshold regarding a respective business metric is satisfied. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Lajouanie describes pre-developed dashboards that display performance data associated with a business activity, or calculations made, in one or more sub-processes of a selected predefined business performance model, wherein the business methods are based on at least one or more performance criteria, for example, business commitments, of an individual or company, such as punctuality, fluidity, accessibility and response-time. Lajouanie does not describe nor suggest a method for processing business metrics information including storing pre-defined users based on a business metric at the database, wherein the business metric is one of a customer-centric metric, a core business metric, and a business function metric, the

customer-centric metric including one of customer savings, on-time deliveries, and quality; the core business metric including one of total revenue, variable costs, base costs, cash flow, and net income; and the business metric is relevant to at least one of sales, marketing, manufacturing, engineering, finance, environmental health and safety, and legal.

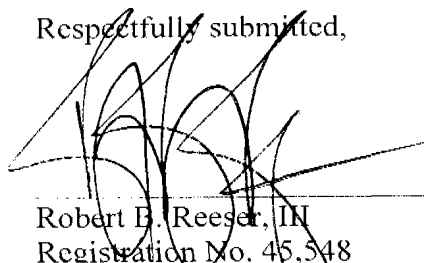
Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Lajouanie.

Claims 3-6 and 8-13 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 3-6 and 8-13 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 3-6 and 8-13 likewise are patentable over Lajouanie.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 102 rejection of Claims 1-6 and 8-13 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. E. Reeser, III', is written over a horizontal line.

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